

COUNTRY

TOPIC General Military Information

EVALUATION 25X1X PLACE OBTAINED 25X1A

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REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

25X1X

1. On 3 December 1952, two sentries with black-bordered red epaulets were observed at the former Kreisgericht (district court) in St. Poelten (O 49/W 88). One sentry guarded the main entrance off Schiesstattring, and the other sentry was at the side entrance on Andreas Hofer Strasse. Sedan [ ] driven by a soldier with black-bordered red epaulets, and jeeps [ ] driven by soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets, together with 4 other sedans, 2 jeeps and 4 trucks, were observed at the main entrance. The motor vehicle traffic indicated that a headquarters was stationed in the installation. Signboards with the inscription [ ] led to the side entrance on Andreas Hofer Strasse. Van-like truck [ ] driven by a soldier with red-bordered black epaulets, was loaded with mail bags at the side entrance. The same truck was observed on the postal loading ramp at the St. Poelten railroad station. Six artillery pieces with a muzzle brake, 9 trucks, 2 jeeps and 2 field kitchens were parked in the garages west of the former Kreisgericht. The gate on Andreas Hofer Strasse was guarded by a sentry wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. An underground fuel dump equipped with fire extinguishers, guarded by a sentry with red-bordered black epaulets, was observed in basements west of the garages. Most of the soldiers observed in the barracks yard of the Rainer Kaserne wore red-bordered black epaulets. Eight trucks, 3 tank trucks and 1 jeep were parked in front of the garages. Soldiers observed in the area of the Eugen Kaserne wore black epaulets and red-bordered black epaulets. A lumberyard, steam rollers, 6 trucks and 2 tank trucks were seen in the installation. Soldiers observed at the Franz Joseph Kaserne wore black-bordered black epaulets and red-bordered black epaulets. Vehicles parked in the installation included jeep [ ] truck [ ] and a radio truck with a rod antenna about four meters high. Vehicles observed at the barracks installation west of Schiesstattring included sedan [ ] and truck [ ] driven by soldiers with black-bordered red epaulets, sedan [ ] driven by a soldier wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia, and truck [ ] driven by a soldier with red-bordered black epaulets. Officer with red-bordered black epaulets, black-bordered red epaulets and black epaulets entered and left the former Stadtsaele, a building with the inscription "Dom officerov" (officers' mess). Two soldiers of a military band with black-bordered red epaulets were probably quartered in a small building which belonged to the former Stadtsaele. From Camp Spratzern (O 49/W 88), four telephone cables converged to the building on Werner Strasse.

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2. On 3 December, about 50 unarmed EM received basic training in front of the low wooden buildings in Camp Spratzern. The two gates of the installation were guarded by sentries with red-bordered black epaulets. Twelve trucks and three jeeps were parked in the installation. An air target installation was observed in the western section. Vehicles observed between St. Poelten and Camp Spratzern included jeep [redacted] driven by a soldier wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia, trucks [redacted] all driven by soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets, and truck [redacted] with the driver wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia.

3. On 2 December 27 EM with red-bordered black epaulets, armed with rifles and commanded by a senior Lieutenant wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia left the Birago Kaserne in Melk (O 49/W 68) and marched toward the Danube. Six trucks were parked in the barracks yard. About 40 unarmed soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets received basic training just south of the gate leading into the installation.

25X1A [redacted] Comment. It appears that no major changes have occurred in the occupation of St. Poelten, Camp Spratzern and Melk. Units stationed in St. Poelten possibly include the 177th Eng Bn in the Prinz Eugen Kaserne, and the 140th Sig Bn in the Franz Joseph Kaserne. These units belong to the 95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div. [redacted]

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